

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1822 - SB 2578

February 8, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to offer advanced courses in mathematics in grades three through twelve. Requires a student who achieves a benchmark score on the end-of-grade or end-of-course test for mathematics to enroll in an advanced course for the next mathematics course in which the student will enroll if one is offered by the LEA. Requires a student in seventh grade who achieves a benchmark score on the end-of-grade or end-of-course mathematics test to be enrolled in a high school level mathematics course in eighth grade. Authorizes an LEA to administer diagnostic assessments, in the absence of end-of-grade or end-of-course tests, to a student in grades three through twelve to determine the mathematics course in which the student should be placed. Prohibits an LEA from removing a student who qualifies for and is enrolled in an advanced or high school mathematics course without certain notification and parental consent. Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to submit a report to the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives by October 1st of each year, beginning in 2021, that contains collected data related to the placement of students in advanced mathematics courses.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures – \$346,200/FY20-21*

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation will require DOE to develop and maintain a tracking system to evaluate the district-specific diagnostic assessment metrics required by the annual report; DOE will be able to comply with this requirement within existing resources.
- The proposed legislation will require all middle schools to offer at least one high-school level mathematics course to students in the eighth grade who achieved a benchmark score on an end-of-grade or end-of-course mathematics test in the seventh grade.
- It is assumed that all middle school mathematics teachers will have to obtain a new certification in order to teach a high school course; there are two different options available to gain certification.
- Option one requires teachers to complete a training course and pass one exam. This is estimated to cost schools \$620 (\$500 training + \$120 exam fee).
- Option two requires teachers to pass two exams. This is estimated to cost schools \$240 (\$120 exam x 2).

- Based on information from DOE, approximately five percent of middle school mathematics teachers have the content knowledge required to pass the two exams required in option two; it is estimated that 95 percent of middle school mathematics teachers will choose option one.
- It is estimated that 576 teachers will need certification and schools will cover the costs associated with certifying their teachers. This will require a one-time increase in local expenditures of \$346,176 [(576 teachers x 5% x \$240) + (576 teachers x 95% x \$620)] in FY20-21.
- This legislation authorizes LEAs to offer advanced courses in mathematics in grades three through twelve. Existing high schools will be able to teach such classes. Existing middle school teachers receiving the additional certifications under this legislation will be able to teach such classes.
- Any increases in expenditures to provide such classes at elementary schools can be absorbed within existing personnel and resources.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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